

**Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing**  
**Tuesday, December 12, 2006**

City of Saint Paul  
Ramsey County  
Saint Paul Public Schools, District 625

6:00 p.m.

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# THE JOINT PROPERTY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## TAX INFORMATION

**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
**651-266-8797**

**RAMSEY COUNTY**  
**651-266-8040**

**SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**651-767-8250**

As the elected and appointed leaders of the City of Saint Paul, Ramsey County, and Saint Paul Public Schools, we warmly welcome you to the thirteenth annual Joint Truth-in-Taxation Hearing. Statewide, similar hearings are being conducted separately by counties, cities, and school districts. Our hearing is unique because all three major taxing jurisdictions are assembled to hear from residential and business taxpayers in the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County.

This evening each taxing unit will present a brief explanation of its spending and financing plan for 2007. At the conclusion of the statements by the elected officials, a representative of Ramsey County will explain what taxpayers in Saint Paul can expect for 2007. The estimates are based on the budgets of the taxing jurisdictions and action by the state legislature regarding class rates and state aids.

Then, you, the taxpayers in the audience, will have a chance to make a statement regarding the plans presented and their impact on you. The hearing is not meant to be a question-and-answer period or a debate. The elected officials are here to listen to your opinions before they make their final budget decisions in the next two weeks. In the audience are staff from each jurisdiction who will be available after the hearing to try to answer any specific questions you may have; or, if you prefer, you may call the numbers listed above.

Again, welcome. Thank you for coming.

Chris Coleman, Mayor  
City of Saint Paul

David J. Twa, County Manager  
Ramsey County

Meria Carstarphen, Superintendent  
Saint Paul Public Schools

Kathy Lantry, President  
Saint Paul City Council

Tony Bennett, Chair  
Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Elona Street-Stewart, Board Chair  
Saint Paul Public Schools

## **Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing - Tuesday, December 12, 2006**

City of Saint Paul — Ramsey County — Saint Paul Public Schools, District 625

### **AGENDA**

- 5:30 p.m.-closing** Ramsey County appraisers available for individual property value consultations - Rooms 2410, 2420, 2450, 2460
- 6:00-6:30 p.m.** Budget presentations on the amount of property taxes that each governmental unit is proposing to collect to pay for services that each will provide in the year 2007 — Arlington High School Great Room
- Welcome:** Chris Coleman, Mayor, City of Saint Paul
- Moderator:** Ray Faricy
- School District Presentation:** Elona Street-Stewart, Board Chair, Saint Paul Public Schools
- County Presentation:** Victoria Reinhardt, Chair, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners Budget Committee of the Whole
- City Presentation:** Chris Coleman, Mayor, City of Saint Paul, and Kathy Lantry, President, Saint Paul City Council
- Overall Property Tax Summary:** Chris Samuel, Ramsey County Property Records and Revenue Manager
- 6:30 p.m.-closing** All City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County residents are invited to express their opinions on the proposed budget and property taxes. Public testimony will continue until all those who wish to speak have had a chance to do so. Each person will be limited to two minutes. The microphones are near the stage and the moderator will indicate the time and order of speakers.

***(Please step up to the microphone and state your name and address for the record.)***

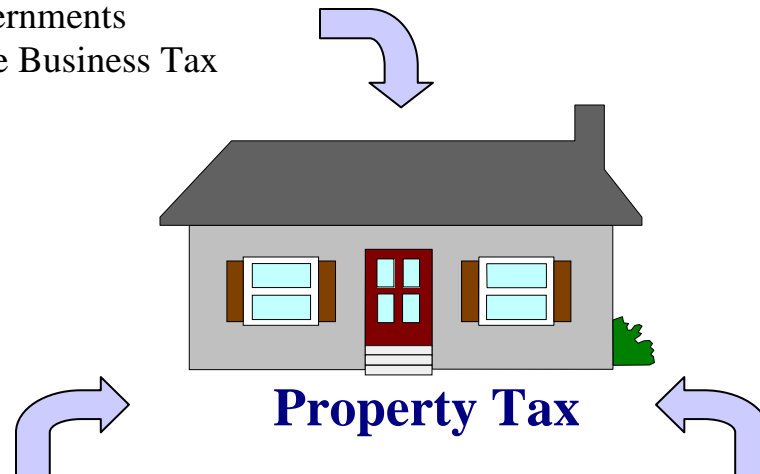
***Interpreters are available for Spanish and Hmong-speaking participants.***

# Summary of Proposed Tax Levies & Their Estimated Impact on 2007 St. Paul Property Taxes

## Who Determines Your Property Tax?

### State Legislature

- Establishes Property Classes & Class Rates
- Determines Levels of State Aid
- Underfunded Mandates to Local Governments
- Levies State Business Tax



### Taxing Jurisdictions

- Determines Levy Amount

### County Assessor

- Determines Market Value
- Assigns Property Class

## Payable 2007 Property Taxes on a \$174,800 St. Paul Home (Median Value) assuming a 15% Increase in Taxable Market Value

Factors	Amount
<b>Final Payable 2006 Total Tax (\$152,000 Home)</b>	<b>\$ 1,567</b>
Loss of Homestead Credit	\$ 21
Gain of Fiscal Disparities	(39)
Other Shifts	49
<b>Total Increase Due to Tax Shifts</b>	<b>\$ 31</b>
County Levy	\$ 50
Regional Rail Levy	34
School District Levy	(87)
City Levy	57
Other Special Taxing Districts Levy	1
<b>Total Increase Due To Changes in Levy</b>	<b>\$ 55</b>
<b>Estimated Payable 2007 Total Tax (\$174,800 Home) - (On TNT Notice)</b>	<b>\$ 1,653</b>
<b>Estimated Combined Increase in Tax Without School Referendum</b>	<b>\$ 86</b>

Estimated Impact of St. Paul School Referendum	Amount
Renewal of School Referendum Levy	108
<b>Estimated Payable 2007 Total Tax (\$174,800 Home) With Referendum Renewal</b>	<b>\$ 1,761</b>
Expansion of School District Referendum	84
<b>Estimated Payable 2007 Total Tax (\$174,800 Home) With School Referendum</b>	<b>\$ 1,845</b>
<b>Estimated Combined Increase in Tax With School Referendum</b>	<b>\$ 278</b>

Estimated Property Tax Refund (Targeting) Without School Referendum	\$0
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Estimated Property Tax Refund (Targeting) With School Referendum	\$54
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### Explanation of terms:

- **Increase due to tax shifts:** This amount is how much property taxes would increase assuming that none of the taxing authorities increased their levies. As market values of homes increase, the homestead credit decreases – which means that taxes paid last year by the state are shifted to local taxpayers this year. As properties increase in value, some increase at a faster rate than others – shifting taxes from properties with a slower rate of growth to those increasing at a faster rate.
- **Increase due to changes in levy:** Shows the tax impact of levy changes.
- **What is a levy?:** A property tax levy is the amount of money requested by a governmental agency to be raised from property taxes in support of a given year's budget.

# **City of St. Paul - Ramsey County - St. Paul School District – Regional Rail**

## **St. Paul Property Tax Revenue**

	<b>Final Change 2004 – 2005</b>	<b>Final Change 2005 – 2006</b>	<b>Proposed Maximum Tax Levy as of:  September 30th</b>	<b>Estimated Change 2006 to 2007</b>	<b>Proposed Maximum Tax Levy Including School Referendum</b>	<b>Estimated Change 2006 to 2007</b>
Certified Levy – Combined St. Paul Share	\$4.4 Million -or- 1.9%	\$23.7 Million -or- 10.2%	\$264,566,551	\$8.4 Million -or- 3.3%	\$287,613,771	\$31.4 Million -or- 12.3%
Levy After Fiscal Disparity Distribution – Combined St. Paul Share	\$6.1 Million -or- 3.4%	\$27.9 Million -or- 14.9%	\$219,298,925	\$3.6 Million -or- 1.7%	\$242,346,145	\$26.6 Million -or- 12.4%

### **Dates for Final Levy Adoption:**

Ramsey County: December 19, 2006  
Council Chambers 9:00 a.m.

St. Paul School District: December 14, 2006  
360 Colborne St. 4:30 p.m.

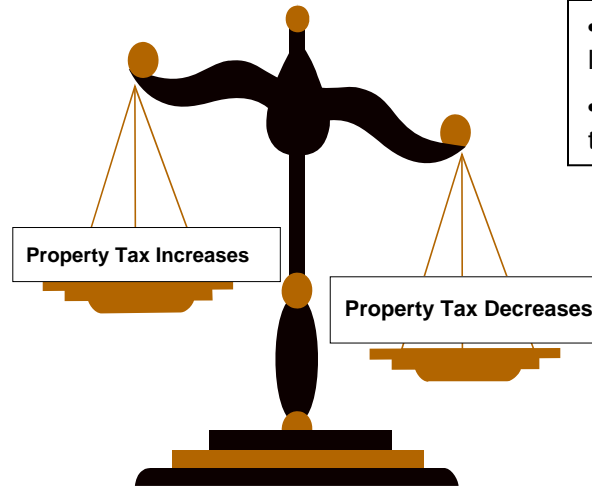
City of St. Paul: December 13, 2006  
Council Chambers 3:30 p.m.

Note: ( ) indicates a negative

# Major Factors That Impact a Homeowner's 2007 Property Tax

## Property Tax Increases can be a result of:

- Increases in local government tax levies
- Legislative shifts in tax burden
- Your taxable market value increases faster than other property in the tax district
- Your homestead credit decreases (for homes greater than \$76,000)



## Property Tax Decreases can be a result of:

- Your homestead credit increases (for homes less than \$76,000)
- Your market value increases at a slower rate than other property in the tax district.

## General Property Tax Information:

- Market value increases do not generate additional revenue for local governments – only increases in tax levies and local assessments provide more money.
- Residential market values continue to rise. Most homes in St. Paul will have a 15 percent increase in taxable market value and a significant number will have value increases greater than 15 percent for taxing purposes. This increase is generally not due to new value growth but instead is the result of “catching up” on value growth deferred by the limited market value formula in prior years. For homes, the limited market value formula limits the increase in taxable market value to the greater of 15% or 25% of the difference in values from last year to this year.

## The Bottom Line:

- Many homes will have moderate tax increases due largely to increased tax levies for the city, county, school district and regional rail authority and tax shifts resulting from home values growing at a faster rate than values for commercial/industrial or apartment properties. School referendums passed by the voters in November are expected to increase the Pay 2007 taxes that appeared on the TNT notice by \$110 per \$100,000 of taxable market value in St. Paul and \$76 per \$100,000 of taxable market value in the Mounds View School District #621.
- Many commercial/industrial properties will have moderate property tax increases or tax decreases.
- Most apartments will have moderate property tax decreases.



# Estimated Percentage Change in 2007 Property Tax On Median Value Single Family Homes

					On TNT Notice		Including School Referendums Passed by Voters in November	
City	School	Payable 2006 City Median Taxable Value	Payable 2007 City Median Taxable Value	% Change In Median Value	Estimated % Change From 2006 Total Tax	Estimated Change From 2006 Total Tax	Estimated % Change From 2006 Total Tax	Estimated Change From 2006 Total Tax
Arden Hills	621	\$263,600	\$281,500	6.8%	5.1%	\$141	12.8%	\$355
	623	"	"	"	3.9%	104		
Falcon Heights	623	249,700	269,000	7.7%	4.6%	112		
Gem Lake	624	234,500	269,700	15.0%	49.3%	1,201		
Lauderdale	623	164,200	188,800	15.0%	15.5%	244		
Little Canada	623	213,500	245,500	15.0%	13.7%	290		
	624	"	"	"	14.2%	299		
Maplewood	622	204,600	220,100	7.6%	6.2%	147		
	623	"	"	"	5.5%	125		
	624	"	"	"	5.9%	134		
Mounds View	621	186,500	199,100	6.8%	4.0%	91	10.8%	242
New Brighton	282	218,900	233,600	6.7%	1.6%	44		
	621	"	"	"	4.8%	122	11.8%	300
North Oaks	621	570,300	607,000	6.4%	5.0%	280	13.1%	741
	624	"	"	"	4.1%	221		
North St. Paul	622	188,700	203,700	7.9%	6.7%	135		
Roseville	621	216,900	234,300	8.0%	7.8%	181	15.6%	359
	623	"	"	"	6.7%	149		
St. Anthony	282	176,500	203,000	15.0%	11.7%	273		
St. Paul	625	152,000	174,800	15.0%	5.5%	86	17.7%	278
Shoreview	621	238,250	257,600	8.1%	6.0%	153	13.6%	349
	623	"	"	"	4.8%	118		
Spring Lake Park	621	178,900	191,450	7.0%	2.9%	68	9.2%	214
Vadnais Heights	621	216,250	237,500	9.8%	8.1%	174	16.6%	355
	624	"	"	"	7.1%	148		
White Bear Lake	624	201,300	220,500	9.5%	6.9%	133		
White Bear Town	624	239,500	260,000	8.6%	6.8%	159		

School Districts: #282 – St. Anthony #621 – Mounds View #622 – Maplewood #623 – Roseville #624 – White Bear Lake #625 – St. Paul  
Voters in the St. Paul School District #625 and the Mounds View School District #621 passed referendums in the November election.

*The TNT Notice amounts do not reflect any changes due to referendums passed at the November election or any levy changes made after notices were mailed.*

# Property Tax Refunds

## For Homeowners

**You may qualify for one or both refunds:**

- **Special Refund (Targeting)**
  - No income limitations
  - Net property tax must increase 12% and more than \$100
  - Refund is 60% of the increase in tax over the 12%/\$100 floor up to \$1,000
  - Does not apply to tax increases resulting from new improvements to the property
- **Regular Refund (Circuit Breaker)**
  - Income Limits (increases with family size)
    - Households with no dependents - \$91,120
    - Senior or disabled with no dependents - \$94,420
    - Households with five or more dependents - \$110,920
  - Maximum refund is \$1,700
- **Filing Deadline:** August 15, 2007 (Returns can be filed up to a year after the due date)
- **Refunds paid:** By the end of September if you file by August 1, or 60 days after you file, whichever is later
- **Property Tax Statement:** A copy of your Statement of Property Taxes Payable in 2007 must be included with your refund request. Ramsey County will mail tax statements in Mid-March, 2007.

## For Renters

- **Income Limits** (increases with family size)
  - Households with no dependents - \$49,160
  - Senior or disabled with no dependents - \$52,460
  - Households with five or more dependents - \$68,960
- Maximum refund is \$1,400
- **Filing Deadline:** August 15, 2007 (Returns can be filed up to a year after the due date)
- **Refunds paid:** By Mid-August if you file by June 15, or 60 days after you file, whichever is later
- **Certificate of Rent Paid:** You will need to include a completed CRP form (from your landlord) with your refund request. You should receive the CRP by January 31, 2007.

Refunds are paid by the Minnesota Department of Revenue

- Request refunds on state form M1-PR
- Contact the Department of Revenue
  - By phone at (651) 296-3781
  - On the internet at [www.taxes.state.mn.us](http://www.taxes.state.mn.us)
  - Or by writing: Minnesota Tax Forms  
Mail Station 5510  
St. Paul, MN 55146-5510



## **SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2006 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

**Joint Property Tax Hearing - Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2006**

# Doing What Works

*Imagine every student*  
inspired, challenged, and cared for by exceptional educators.  
*Imagine your family*  
welcomed, respected, and valued by exceptional schools.  
*Imagine our community*  
united, strengthened, and prepared for an exceptional future.

This Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) vision statement is the driving force behind everything we do. Ensuring high academic achievement for all students, we headed into the 2006 Referendum with seven consecutive years of improved test scores. With a new superintendent, and the additional revenue approved by Saint Paul voters in November, we will continue to build on—and accelerate—this progress.

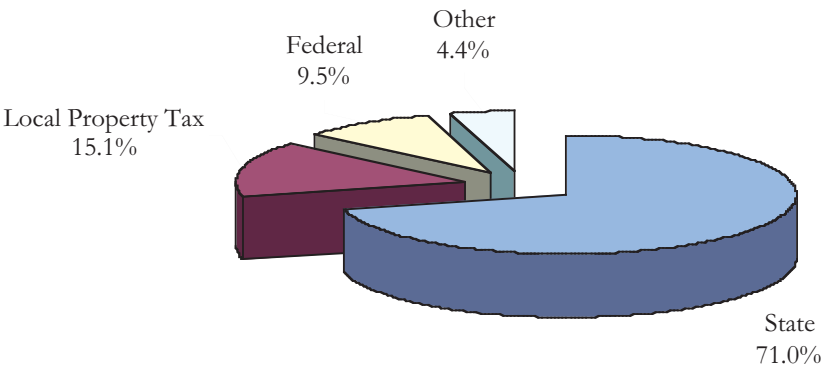
Under the leadership of Superintendent Meria Carstarphen, district staff have been developing a new Strategic Plan, which citizens will be invited to review in January. The new accountability plan will be developed, based on what we know from our own schools’ success, best practices, and research.

We know what works, and we will align our resources to continue to provide the kind of excellence in Saint Paul schools that citizens have come to expect over the course of our proud 150-year history.

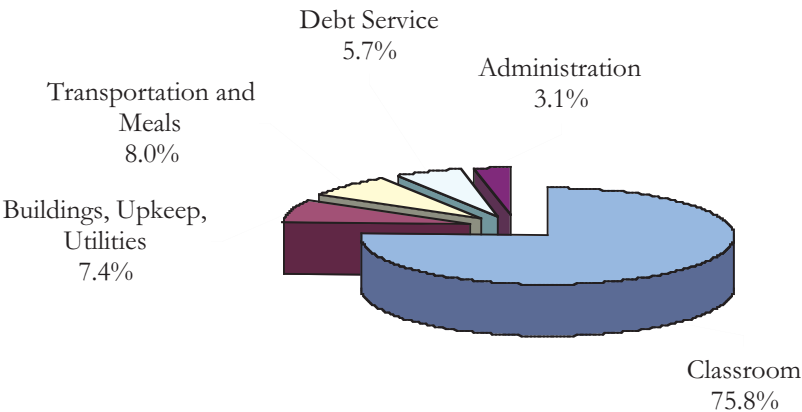
## THE CURRENT BUDGET YEAR

The financial information included in this document includes all district funds, except for the building construction fund. The district’s adopted budget for the current school year (2006-07) includes revenues of \$570.4 million and expenditures of \$571.9 million. To balance the current budget in 2006-07, the district used \$1.5 million of fund balance, which is a “rainy-day” fund maintained by the district to address unexpected or unbudgeted expenses, such as spiking energy costs.

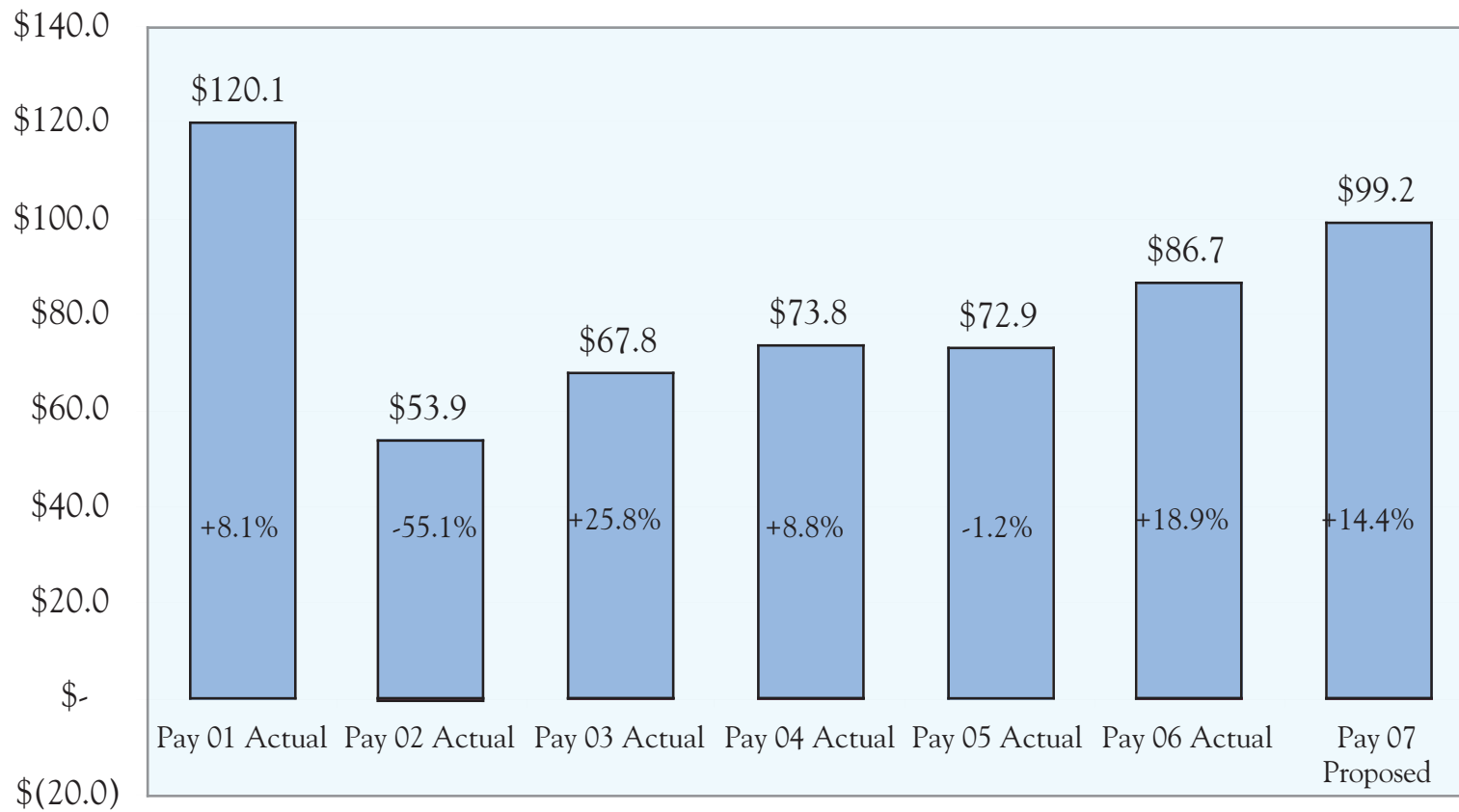
Total School District Revenue - \$570.4 Million



Total School District Spending - \$571.9 Million



# SPPS Property Tax Levy History



## Pay 2007 Levy Changes vs. Pay 2006 Levy

The proposed school district taxes payable in 2007 is 14.4 percent higher than the levy certified in 2006, due to the passage of the referendum.

The total dollar increase proposed is \$12.5 million, with changes as follows:

### Levy Changes (in millions)

Referendum Levy	\$11.6
Other General Fund Levies	\$-2.7
<u>Debt Service Levies</u>	<u>\$3.6</u>
<b>Total Levy Increase</b>	<b>\$12.5</b>

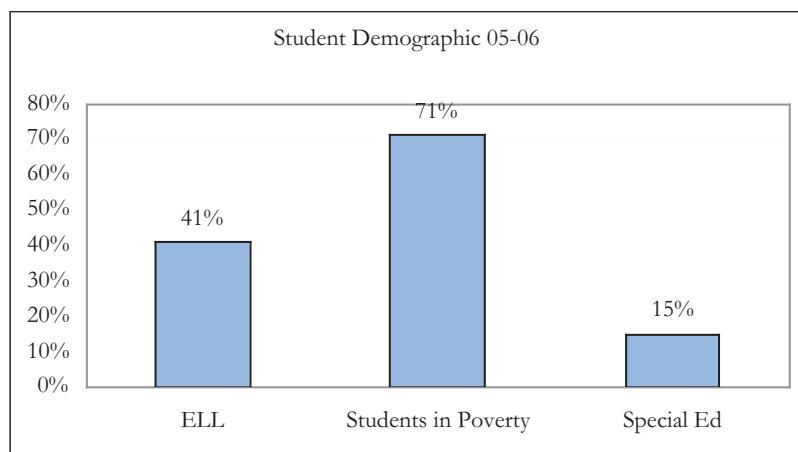
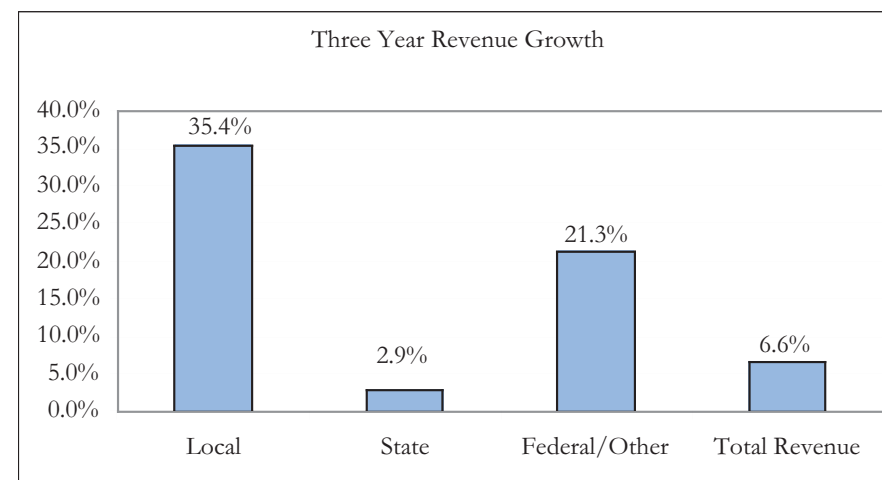
# Factors Affecting Payable 2007 Levies

*For more information, including specific academic achievement data and financial facts, please visit [www.spps.org](http://www.spps.org).*

Each year the legislature determines the formulas that establish how much state aid and local property tax revenue the district will receive. Due to the state's budget crisis, the property tax levy has grown 35.4%, while state aid has grown by only 2.9%. Total revenue for the district has only grown by 6.6%. This has led to the need for budget reductions of \$32.3 million over the past three years.

## Some of the budget pressures that the district has faced over the past three fiscal years are:

- Total district revenue has increased by only 6.6%
- Utility costs have increased by 25.9%
- Health insurance costs have increased by 35.4%
- Unfunded or under funded mandates such as special education and No Child Left Behind cost the district more than \$40 million each year.
- The State cut funding for four-year-old kindergarten, English Language Learner programs, Early Childhood Family Education, Learning Readiness, and integration revenues.



## Over the same period of time:

- Our English language learner population has increased. ELL students now comprise 41% of the total student enrollment.
- Students in poverty have increased. They now comprise 71% of the total student enrollment.
- Special education students, both in numbers and the severity of their handicaps, have increased. They now comprise 15% of the total student enrollment.

**Current state law provides for no increase to school district revenue for fiscal year 2007-08.**

The Board of Education, after a thorough review of existing sources of revenue and demand for students services in fall of 2006, decided to ask voters for additional funds in fall of 2006. The need for the referendum and its financial impact are detailed on the next page.

# 2006 Referendum for Continued Excellence in Schools

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*For more information, including specific academic achievement data and financial facts, please visit [www.spps.org](http://www.spps.org).*

## **Thank you, Saint Paul tax payers!**

The Referendum for Continued Excellence in Schools passed with 62 percent of the vote in November. Your support allows us to better prepare students entering first grade and secondary students exiting high school. It will also provide much-needed revenue to address the challenges of unpredictable state funding, unfunded mandates, and skyrocketing energy and health care costs.

## **Investment in Saint Paul Public Schools over the past 7 years is paying off**

- 7 consecutive years of improved scores on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment test (replaced in 2006 by the MCA-II).
- Percentage of students proficient in reading and math on state tests nearly doubled between 1999 and 2005.
- More progress with English Language Learners (ELL) than other districts nationally, according to the Council of the Great City Schools.
- The drop out rate has been cut in half, to less than 11%, in seven years.

## **The 2006 Referendum: To continue progress and raise the bar on learning.**

- \$17 million in renewed referendum funds will be used to:

*Maintain class sizes.*

*Continue essential programs* in math, science, reading, art, music, and physical education, health and wellness, and all-day kindergarten, as well as a comprehensive high school curriculum.

*Support existing programs in our schools* for English Language Learners and Special Education students.

- \$13 million in expanded referendum funds will:

*Prepare students for first grade* by adding all-day kindergarten at all schools, existing early kindergarten classes for 4-year-olds, and Early Childhood Family Education.

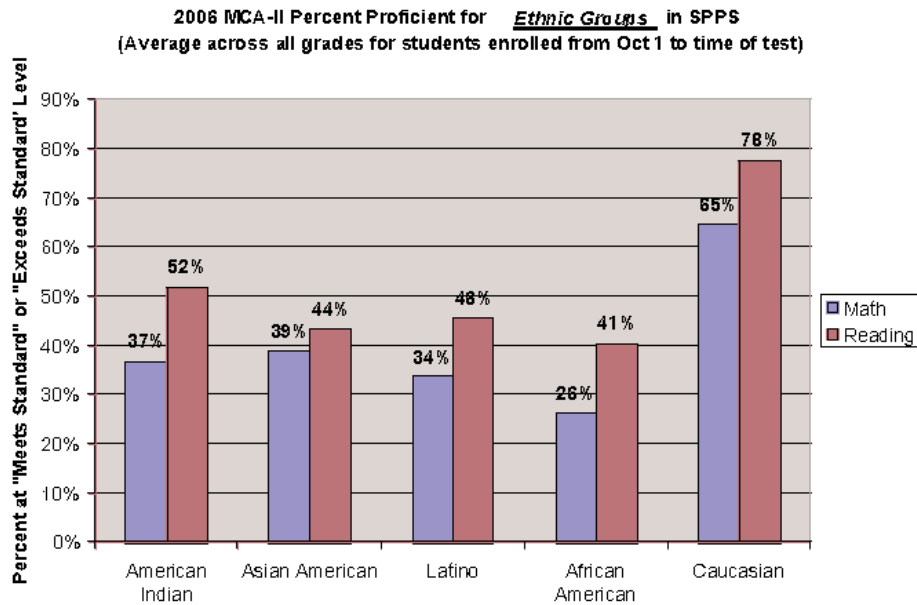
*Prepare secondary students* for post-secondary opportunities, especially in math and science, provide individual instruction, and upgrade

## **Referendum Tax Impact**

Property tax payers will pay an additional \$110 per \$100,000 of taxable property value.

# Student Achievement in Our Schools

Saint Paul Public Schools works hard to ensure that every dollar we spend will help our students perform better. As a result, student achievement is rising.



## MCA-II

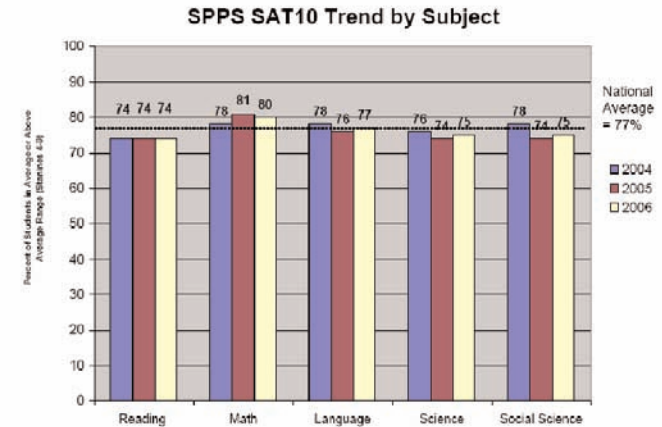
Last spring, all students statewide took a new test—the MCA-II—which measured proficiency in math and English.

Among the highlights of the test results for Saint Paul Public Schools:

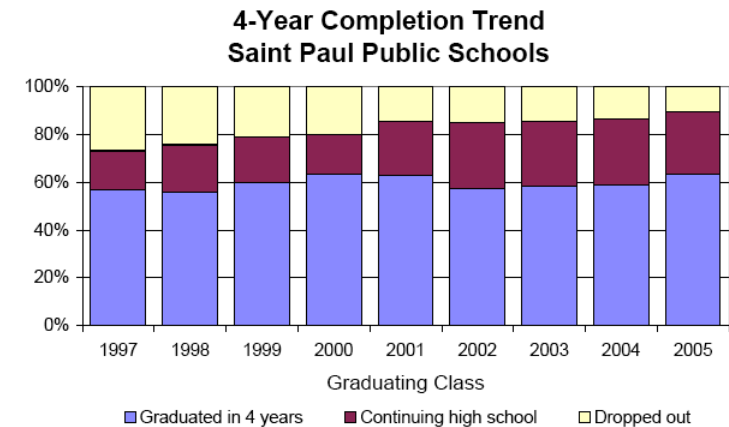
- Low-Income ELL Latino students outperformed their peers statewide on 13 of 14 MCA-II tests (93%)
- Not-Low Income Caucasian students also outperformed statewide peers on 13 of 14 tests.
- For 11th grade math, two high schools, Central and Highland Park, outperformed high schools statewide.

Although we were pleased that our district met the state's standards for Adequate Yearly Progress, we know we can do better. For example:

- We need to do more to close the achievement gap between students of color and their peers.
- We need to do a better job of ensuring that students of all abilities at all grade levels are making meaningful progress at all schools.



The overall percentage of Saint Paul students performing at or above average on the SAT10 has stayed at approximately the same at the national average, even as the percentage of English language learner students (41%), students in poverty (71%), and special education students (15%) has increased.



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Graduated in four years	56.9%	56.0%	59.8%	63.4%	63.0%	57.4%	58.3%	59.1%	63.3%
Continuing high school	16.3%	19.8%	19.1%	16.8%	22.6%	27.6%	27.4%	27.4%	26.1%
Dropped out	26.8%	24.2%	21.1%	19.8%	14.4%	15.0%	14.3%	13.5%	10.6%

In the last decade, the drop-out rate has been cut in half, to less than 11 percent, but we need to reduce it still further.





## Ramsey County 2007 Proposed Property Tax Levy

### Joint Property Tax Public Hearing - December 12, 2006

The Ramsey County budget provides public safety and justice services, health and human services, libraries, parks, and transit and transportation systems and other community services, especially for those most vulnerable. It supports a strong, healthy, and economically sound community today and in the future; delivers cost-effective, quality services to County taxpayers; and positions the County to maintain the "Triple A" credit rating into the future. The budget responsibly balances the need for essential government services with our community's ability to pay for these services.

State and federal cuts and cost shifts have dominated the County budget for the past four years. A wide range of programs and services were cut significantly as a result of State and federal revenue reductions, cost increases, and increased mandates. Despite aggressive cost cutting and spending increases below inflation, the property tax levy has increased faster than spending because of the state and federal policy to rely more heavily on property taxes to pay for County delivered programs and services. State and federal revenue financed a larger part and property taxes financed a smaller part of the County budget in the past. Property taxes will pay for 42.6% of the County's budget in 2007 compared to 35.8% of in 2000.

The County's **commitment to public safety** is reflected in increases for the Departments of Emergency Communications, Community Corrections, Sheriff and County Attorney. The budget **preserves basic safety net services** for the most vulnerable in our community; however, some reductions in health and human services are necessary.

The County continues to believe that early intervention and prevention efforts reduce cost over the long-term but most of these services have been eliminated as a result of state and federal cuts. Further budget reductions would result in cutting help for children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families, children in need of protection from abuse and neglect, families seeking to adopt, elderly and vulnerable adults needing help with medical bills and nursing home admittance, adults with mental illness or chemical dependency, Meals on Wheels and other safety net services. Although modest, higher increases than previous years are proposed for Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Libraries to **maintain services and facilities that improve the livability of our community**.

Ramsey County Board of Commissioners	651-266-8350
Tony Bennett	District 1
Toni Carter	District 4
Jim McDonough	District 6
Rafael Ortega	District 5
Jan Parker	District 2
Victoria Reinhardt	District 7
Janice Rettman	District 3

Ramsey County Manager	651-266-8000
David Twa	

Ramsey County Finance Director	
Julie Kleinschmidt	651-266-8040

Ramsey County Sheriff	651-266-9333
Bob Fletcher	

Ramsey County Attorney	651-266-3222
Susan Gaertner	

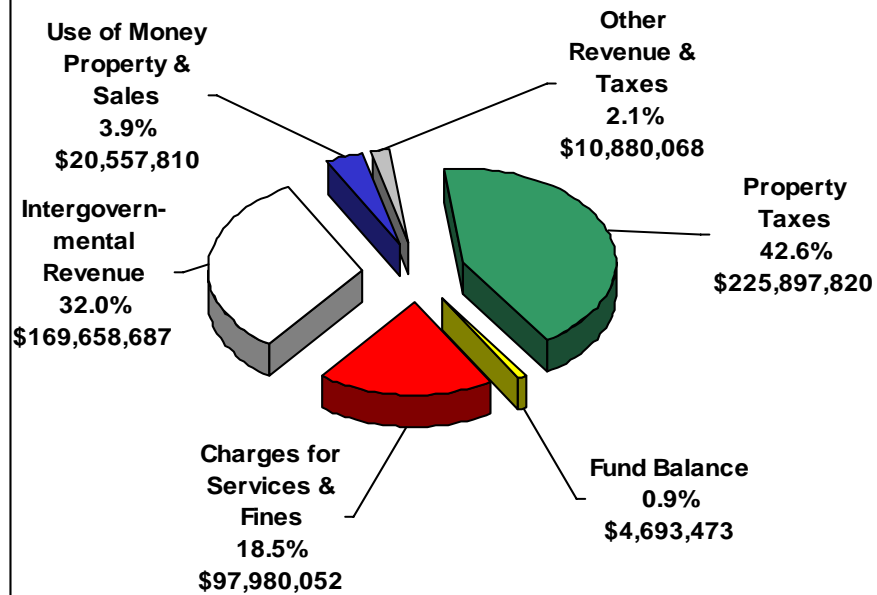
Ramsey County Property Tax Information	651-266-2000
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[www.co.ramsey.mn.us](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us)

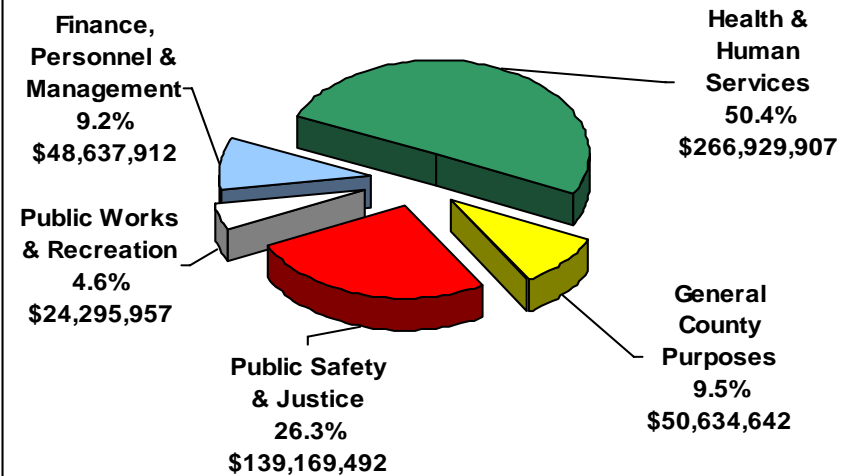


# Ramsey County 2007 Proposed Property Tax Levy

## Where The County Dollar Comes From \$529,667,910



## Where The County Dollar Goes \* \$529,667,910



\* 2.1% Increase over 2006



## Ramsey County 2007 Proposed Property Tax Levy

Ramsey County Spending Increase	\$10.9 million	2.1%
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- Public Safety expansion and emergency communications consolidation for more efficient, consistent, and better 911 services saving cities \$4.8 million in annual operating costs plus \$8.4 million in capital costs \$10.9 million
- \* 70% of the total spending increase, \$7.6 million, is for the county-wide consolidated emergency communication system
- Health and Human Services **reductions** (\$4.4 million)
- All other spending - Public Works, Parks, Libraries, Retiree Health Insurance Funding \$4.4 million

Ramsey County Property Tax Levy Increase	\$13.5 million	6.2%
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- Property tax levy increase pays for:
  - Public Safety and Emergency Communications \$6.0 million
  - Health and Human Services replacement of state and federal revenue cuts \$6.5 million
  - 50% of the total property tax levy increase replaces lost federal and state revenue despite spending reductions in excess of \$18 million since 2003
  - All other county services and costs \$1.0 million

Regional Railroad Authority Tax Levy Increase	\$9.2 million	84.8%
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- Transit and transportation investments to increase economic development, jobs, tax base, and to leverage major Federal funding allocation
- Historic Union Depot multi-modal transit hub and Central Corridor light rail transit connecting downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis

Combined Ramsey County and Regional Railroad Authority Tax Levy Increase	9.9%
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## Ramsey County Budget, Revenue, and Tax Levy Comparison 2006 to 2007

	2006 Approved	2007 Proposed	Increase (Decrease)	% Inc./Dec.
<b>County</b>				
<b>Budget (spending)</b>	\$518,729,994	\$529,667,910	\$10,937,916	2.1%
Revenue	298,221,355	299,076,617	855,262	0.3%
Used from Fund Balance	7,813,178	4,693,473	(3,119,705)	(39.9%)
<b>County Tax Levy*</b>	217,455,420	230,921,903	13,466,483	<b>6.2%</b>
<b>Regional Railroad Authority</b>				
<b>Budget (spending)</b>	\$10,601,335	\$14,167,198	\$3,565,863	33.6%
Revenue	159,400	159,400	0	0.0%
Addition to Fund Balance	(5,882)	(5,400,000)	(5,394,118)	91,705.5%
<b>Regional Railroad Authority Tax Levy*</b>	10,787,079	19,938,811	9,151,732	<b>84.8%</b>
<b>Combined County and Regional Railroad Authority Tax Levy*</b>	<b>\$228,242,499</b>	<b>\$250,860,714</b>	<b>\$22,618,215</b>	<b>9.9%</b>

\* Includes allowance for uncollectible taxes.



**City of Saint Paul**  
**Office of Financial Services**  
Telephone: (651) 266-8797  
Website: [www.stpaul.gov](http://www.stpaul.gov)  
(Includes detailed budget information)

# **City of Saint Paul**

## **2007 Recommended Tax Levy Information**

Joint Property Tax Hearing  
December 12, 2006 6:00 pm  
Saint Paul Arlington High School

**Mayor Christopher B. Coleman**

***City Councilmembers:***

Deborah Montgomery	Ward 1
Dave Thune	Ward 2
Pat Harris	Ward 3
Jay Benanav	Ward 4
Lee Helgen	Ward 5
Dan Bostrom	Ward 6
Kathy Lantry, Council President	Ward 7

## Facts about the City of Saint Paul's 2007 Budget and Property Taxes

The proposed 2007 budgets for the City of Saint Paul and the Saint Paul Public Library Agency total \$532 million, including operations, debt service, and capital expenditures. The overall proposed budget for 2007 is \$22 million below the 2006 budget, reflecting a reduction in capital improvement spending. The combined operating budgets for the City and Library are recommended to increase by 1.6%.

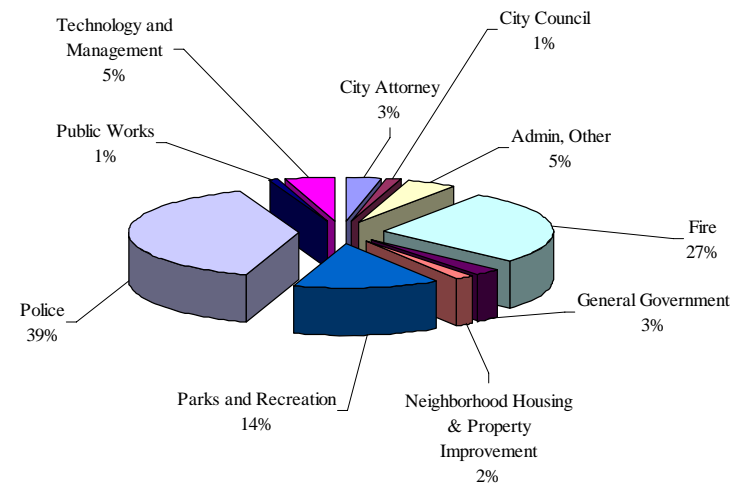
The City of Saint Paul is proposing a **9.97%** increase in the property tax levy for 2007. The City expects to collect \$70.97 million in property taxes in 2007 to fund its operations, about **\$6.4** million more than in 2006. An additional **\$1.7** million will be levied on behalf of the St. Paul Port Authority to support economic development activities.

Property taxes go to the City's General Fund and help the City operate and maintain City services and infrastructure including 15 Police stations, 16 Fire stations, and 41 recreation centers.

In 2007, property taxes will finance 26.7% of the General Fund. The remainder is non-property tax financing from a variety of resources, including additional parking revenues, franchise fees, local government aid from the state, and available fund balances from outside the General Fund.

The proposed 2007 budget maintains current public service levels at park and recreation and library facilities, and adds additional police officers. It also provides for wireless Internet access in St. Paul libraries.

### General Fund Spending- \$172 Million



**Property Tax Financing and State Aid: City, Library Agency and Port Authority Combined**  
**Property Tax Levy Will Increase by 6.8 Million**

**Property Tax Levy\***

	<u>2006 Adopted</u>	<u>2007 Proposed</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Pct. Change</u>	<u>Pct of City 06 Total</u>	<u>Pct of City 07 Total</u>
City of Saint Paul						
General Fund	47,258,408	48,206,936	948,528	2.01%	73.23%	67.93%
General Debt Service	6,653,277	11,086,202	4,432,925	66.63%	10.31%	15.62%
Saint Paul Public Library Agency	10,621,221	11,676,423	1,055,202	9.93%	16.46%	16.45%
Total (City and Library combined)	64,532,906	70,969,561	6,436,655	9.97%	100.00%	100.00%
Port Authority	1,312,608	1,709,050	396,442	30.20%	2.03%	2.41%
Overall Levy (City, Library & Port)	65,845,514	72,678,611	6,833,097	10.38%		

\* This is the total property tax levy used to determine tax rates. Actual financing available to support the budget is less, due to a 2% "shrinkage" allowance for delinquent taxes. The State pays a portion of the tax levy through the Market Value Homestead Credit, which is included in these numbers.

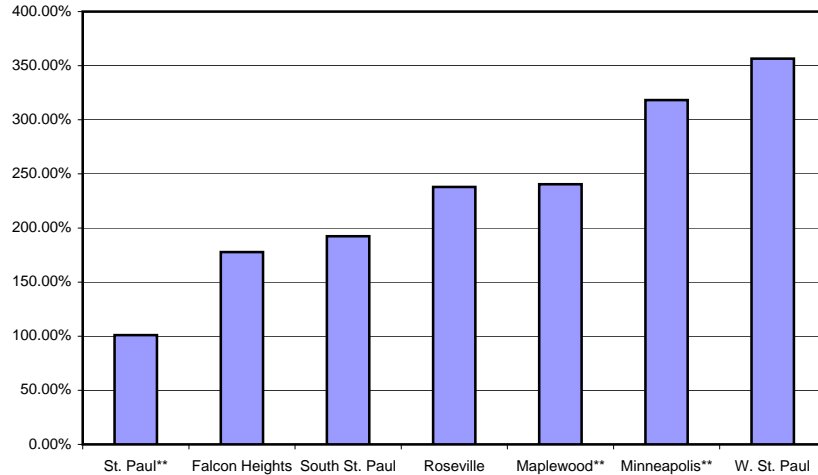
**Local Government Aid Financing**

	<u>2006 Adopted</u>	<u>2007 Proposed</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Pct. Change</u>	<u>Pct. Of 06 Total</u>	<u>Pct. of 07 Total</u>
City of Saint Paul						
General Fund	54,577,670	54,959,556	381,886	0.7%	91.7%	91.7%
General Debt Service	0	0	0	N.A.	0.0%	0.0%
Saint Paul Public Library Agency	4,966,891	5,001,645	34,754	0.7%	8.3%	8.3%
Total (City and Library combined)	59,544,561	59,961,201	416,640	0.7%	100.0%	100.0%

# How do St. Paul's City Property Taxes and Maintenance Assessments Compare with Nearby Cities?

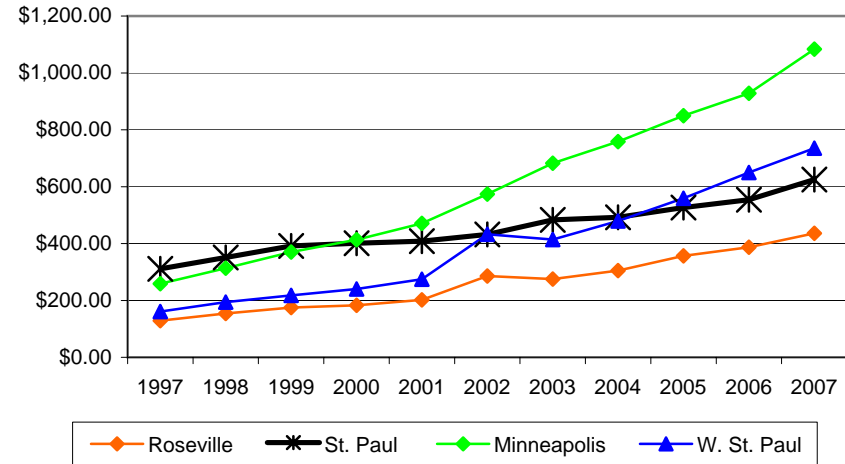
**Percent Increase in Property Taxes/Assessments 1997-2007**

*Based on City Taxes/Assessments Applied to the Taxable Value of a Median St. Paul Home*



**Annual Property Tax/Assessment Trends 1997-2007**

*Based on City Taxes/Assessments Applied to the Taxable Value of a Median Saint Paul Home*



## Property Tax/Assessment Comparison 1997-2007

*Based on City Taxes/Assessments Applied to the Taxable Value of a Median St. Paul Home in the Given Year*

Median Est. Market Value*	\$ 76,100	\$ 198,400	
Median Taxable Value*	\$ 72,315	\$ 174,800	
City	1997	2007	% Change
<b>St. Paul**</b>	<b>\$ 310.89</b>	<b>\$ 624.76</b>	<b>100.96%</b>
Falcon Heights	\$ 117.05	\$ 325.13	177.77%
South St. Paul	\$ 204.08	\$ 596.73	192.40%
Roseville	\$ 129.05	\$ 436.14	237.96%
Maplewood**	\$ 175.06	\$ 596.07	240.50%
Minneapolis**	\$ 259.07	\$ 1,083.38	318.18%
W. St. Paul	\$ 161.06	\$ 735.37	356.57%

\* Estimated and taxable market values are based on a median St. Paul home. Tax amounts for each municipality are based on the taxable market value listed. Market-Value Homestead credit is NOT included in the tax calculations.

\*\* Figures for St. Paul include an estimated Right of Way assessment. Figures for Minneapolis include a voter-approved market value levy for city libraries. Figures for Maplewood include a voter-approved market value levy for preservation of open spaces.